

ABG943

Torrance, California
May 27, 1947

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, May 27, 1947, at 7:45 p.m.

Mayor Sherfey called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey.

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Councilman Jackson moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held May 13, 1947; the minutes of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held May 16, 1947; and the minutes of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held May 20, 1947 be approved as written. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from Reed H. Parkin submitting his resignation as a member and Chairman of the Torrance Aviation Commission.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Mr. Parkin's resignation be accepted and that an appointment to fill this vacancy be taken under consideration by the Council. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the City Clerk be authorized to address a letter to Mr. Parkin expressing the Council's appreciation for services rendered while a member of the Torrance Aviation Commission. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Robert S. Edwards claiming that one of the city's trucks had damaged his car while it was parked on a city street.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Mr. Edwards' claim be referred to the City Attorney for recommendation. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from California-Nevada Properties, Inc. advising that they are starting the construction of 211 houses in Tract 10306, which is a portion of Hollywood Riviera. The development of this tract will include a complete water system to be installed under the supervision of the California Water Service Company. The contractor's representative called upon the Fire Chief to determine requirements for fire plugs for fire protection in this tract, the estimated cost of which amounts to approximately

\$6500.00. The California-Nevada Properties, Inc. claim that this amount is to be paid by the City of Torrance because of the fact that this is not a new subdivision but one that has been recorded since 1928. As they are proceeding with the installation of the water system the company requests action to determine the manner of payment.

City Engineer Jain confirmed the statement that Tract 10306 is an old subdivision accepted in 1928 with no provision for improvements. He did not know what rights in the tract the California Water Service Company had been granted by the Huntington Land Company.

Councilman Tolson moved that this request be referred to the City Engineer for recommendation. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Associated Telephone Company, Ltd. requesting permission to trim trees that are causing continuous trouble to telephone lines on Sepulveda Boulevard S/s, 1300' E/o Knob Hill Avenue to Hawthorne Boulevard.

Councilman Powell moved that the request be granted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Torrance Lions Club stating that at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Torrance Lions Club held May 23, 1947, they went on record as supporting the plea of the First District Welfare Council for establishment of a bus line on Carson Street to Long Beach to serve Harbor General Hospital as well as the people of the community.

Councilman Tolson moved that this request for additional service be referred to Mr. Murphey, Manager for the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Pacific Electric Railway Company granting a permit to the City of Torrance to enter upon the easterly four feet of Lots 1 and 2, the easterly three feet of Lot 3 and the easterly two feet of Lot 4, in Block 106, Torrance Tract, at the southwest corner of 220th Street and Western Avenue for the purpose of placing and maintaining cut slopes along the easterly side of said property, in connection with improvement of Western Avenue between 182nd Street and 261st Street. The permit specified certain conditions and stated it will remain in effect until cancelled by either party upon thirty days notice.

City Engineer Jain explained that this was an easement and it should be perpetual, otherwise it would not be of value to the city, and recommended that the thirty day clause be eliminated.

Councilman Tolson moved that this permit be referred to the City Engineer for discussion with the Pacific Electric Railway Company. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Chamber of Commerce requesting immediate action be taken, by abatement proceedings, or any other appropriate means, for the removal of the unsightly brick walls on the property at the intersection of Cabrillo and Gramercy Streets.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the communication be referred to the City Engineer for recommendation. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Torrance Area Veterans Service Center advising that a parade will be held on Memorial Day, May 30, 1947, to be followed by a Memorial service at El Prado Park, and requesting that individuals and groups participate in this solemn service.

Councilman Tolson believed that the city should be represented, and moved that at least one police car, properly decorated, take part in the parade, with the Mayor and members of the Council present, if they can attend. Mayor Sherfey replied that he will be glad to participate in the dedication ceremonies. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Rev. Arthur P. Pedersen, Pastor of the Foursquare Church, requesting permission to erect a tent 40 x 80 on the corner of Torrance Boulevard and Cravens, northwest corner, for the period of June 22nd to August 3rd, for the purpose of holding gospel services under the auspices of the local Foursquare Church.

Councilman Tolson moved that this request be granted. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Tolson moved that refunds on licenses issued the Long Beach Cigarette Service be denied in accordance with Chief Stroh's recommendation. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Tolson moved that the request of the A-1 Catering Service of Los Angeles, for a business license be granted in accordance with Chief Stroh's recommendation. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Tolson moved that the request of the Swell Time Ice Cream Corporation of Burbank, for a business license be granted, in accordance with Chief Stroh's recommendation. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Marie E. Bruce presented applications for permission to operate two taxicabs.

Upon recommendation of Chief Stroh, Councilman Gilbert moved that business licenses be issued Marie E. Bruce for the operation of two taxicabs. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1837

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE OPPOSING THE
PRESENT FORM OF SENATE BILL 805 AND
URGING UNFAVORABLE LEGISLATIVE AND
GUBERNATORIAL ACTION THEREON.

In response to Councilman Jackson's request for information on Senate Bill 805, Mr. Stanger, Manager of the Water Department, informed him that Senate Bill 805 is restrictive, cumbersome and unworkable and that the American Water Works Association is opposing this Bill.

Councilman Tolson moved that Resolution No. 1837 be adopted. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1838

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE ENDORSING HOUSE
RESOLUTION NO. 27 AND SENATE BILL
990 (AS AMENDED), AND URGING FAVOR-
ABLE LEGISLATIVE ACTION THEREON.

Councilman Tolson moved that Resolution No. 1838 be adopted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented for final reading:

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ORDINANCE NO. 387

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
AND THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION, CALI-
FORNIA STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT
SYSTEM, PROVIDING FOR THE PARTICIPATION
OF SAID PUBLIC AGENCY IN SAID STATE
EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM, MAKING
ITS EMPLOYEES MEMBERS OF SAID SYSTEM.

Councilman Jackson commented that the Ordinance did not show what the cost of participation in the Retirement System would be to the City. Mayor Sherfey asked City Attorney Willett to explain this which he did by informing that the amount is mentioned in the Contract.

At this time Mr. Stanger, Manager of the Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1 asked if the employees of the Water Department would be included in the Retirement System. Mayor Sherfey replied that it is up to the Board of Administration to make this decision.

City Attorney Willett gave as his opinion that the Water Department could not be included in this system saying "because the City of Torrance in levying the tax rate would have to levy it uniformly throughout the City, which would mean that the people in the Hollywood Riviera District would be paying for the retirement of the employees of the Water Department and the people of Hollywood Riviera do not benefit from the water district." In like manner this would apply to North Torrance and WALTERIA districts. City Attorney Willett stated that the actuary survey is based on salaries of employees of the City of Torrance and the Water Department is a separate Water District, and he could not say what decision the actuaries would make in their resurvey of 1950. He believed that probably the Retirement System would rule out all the Water Department employees in view of the fact that the water districts do not cover all of Torrance.

Councilman Tolson moved that further reading of Ordinance No. 387 be dispensed with. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

At this point Councilman Jackson asked what the cost would be to the City, City Attorney Willett referred to the Minutes of May 13, 1947 which showed the amount to be \$44,856.27 annually.

Councilman Tolson moved that Ordinance No. 387 be adopted for final reading. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from Dale Riley, Superintendent of Recreation, recommending that the proposed plans of the American Legion for moving the concession and their request to move the chain link wire fence that now encircles the model car race track, be approved.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the recommendation of Dale Riley be concurred in. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Jackson moved that the City Clerk be authorized to advertise for bids for gasoline requirements for the period July 1, 1947 to June 30, 1948. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Jackson moved that the City Clerk be authorized to advertise for bids for collection and/or disposal of all garbage and tin cans for the period July 1, 1947 to June 30, 1948. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Tolson moved that the City Clerk be authorized to request 60 day binders on all fire insurance policies expiring during the months of June and July, 1947 in order to review and revise rates and amounts of insurance. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Tolson moved that an increase in salary from \$220.00 to \$235.00 per month be granted to Bus Operators Silas C. Whitman and Robert Good, effective on payroll period beginning June 1, 1947, as they have completed their six months' employment as of May 20, 1947. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Tolson moved that an increase in salary from \$220.00 to \$235.00 per month be granted to Bus Operator James H. Hale, effective on payroll period beginning May 15, 1947, he having completed his six months' employment on May 13, 1947. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$75.60 be made for payment of premium for renewal of Fire Insurance policy on Grandstand, Bleachers, Lunchstand Concession and Fence. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$200.00 be made for payment of yearly premium on bonds for the City Clerk and City Treasurer. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$475.56, tax included, be made for the purchase of 12 - 6" Valves, Hub End, Double Disc @ \$39.63, for the Water Department. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$922.50, tax included, be made from Bond Fund No. 31, for the purchase of 150 - 3/4" Goosenecks Complete @ \$4.33; 150 - 3/4" Stops L.W. Service @ \$1.06 and 300 - 3/4" Couplings Water Meter @ \$.38, for Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Sherfey read a communication from W. H. Stanger, Manager, Water Department, requesting authority to cancel order for a full powered crane, to replace a Dodge truck. He explained that since placing the order on November 26, 1946 the price had increased from \$3,668.35 to \$5,223.55.

Mayor Sherfey moved that Mr. Stanger's request for authority to cancel the above order be granted. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an expenditure of \$2,367.32 be authorized for the purchase of 1 Dodge WDX Express Power Wagon, equipped with winch and power take-off, to replace a 1934 Dodge Truck, for the Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1, price of new truck plus sales tax being \$2,770.57, less excise tax \$103.25, less trade-in allowance \$300.00, total price of new Dodge \$2,367.32. Councilman Jackson inquired if this new Dodge will take the place of the cancelled order for the full powered crane. Mr. Stanger replied in the affirmative. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

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Councilman Powell announced that Gerald M. Calder passed away on the 27th day of May, 1947 and moved that the flags on City Buildings be flown at half mast in honor of Mr. Gerald M. Calder who at one time had served the City as its Chief of Police, and that the City Custodian be requested to carry out this order. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the City Clerk be instructed to write a letter of condolence to the family of Mr. Calder. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

City Engineer Jain reported that Albert Mellinkoff, owner of the Grand Theatre, had temporarily withdrawn his request that the City vacate a portion of a 15 foot alley adjoining the southeast corner of Cravens Avenue and Gramercy, as there was some deed restriction on the alley.

City Engineer Jain reported that the request of S. H. Pine to vacate all the streets and alleys within the area bounded on the north by Dominguez Street, on the east by Acacia Avenue, on the south by Maricopa Street and the Santa Fe Railroad, and on the west by Crenshaw Boulevard, for the purpose of resubdividing this area for the construction of housing project, was being handled at Public Hearing.

Mayor Sherfey reported that Ordinance No. 388, Subdivision Ordinance, was still under study and consideration by the Council.

Mayor Sherfey reported that the request of Mrs. Buffington, Piano Teacher, for reduction in yearly license tax for piano teachers, has not yet been considered by the Council.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. R. I. Plomert asked the Council if he was correct in his understanding that the Right-of-entry to the Lomita Flight Strip will expire at twelve midnight tonight. He said he had been informed that an extension of time had been granted. Mayor Sherfey informed Mr. Plomert that the matter had been discussed with a representative of the Supervisor of this District, who had assured him that the procedure being followed was within the City's jurisdiction. Mr. Plomert asked if any written communication had been received from the Government. Mayor Sherfey replied "not to my knowledge".

Councilman Jackson inquired if the 28th or the 27th was the effective date. Mayor Sherfey advised him it was the 28th.

Mrs. Pons inquired if the Council was still interested in her lots for a Bus Depot. Mayor Sherfey informed her that there were several parcels of land under consideration for a Bus Depot but could not advise her if the City was interested in her lots, but she would be so advised if they were. He suggested that she contact Mr. William Murphey, Manager of the Bus Lines in this regard.

Mr. Stanger, Manager of the Water Department, in referring to the opinion set forth by Attorney Willett who stated that he did not believe the employees of the Water Department could be included in the Retirement System, inquired if the same opinion applied to the status of the Water Department employees under Civil Service. City Attorney Willett replied that it was his opinion it probably would, but in the case of the Retirement System, it was purely a taxation matter. Mr. Stanger inquired "if we are not a part of the City, why are we under Civil Service". City Attorney Willett would not be bound by his answer but it was his opinion that the Water Department employees are not under Civil Service.

Replying further to Mr. Plomert's question, City Attorney Willett proceeded to read the Right-of-entry to the Lomita Flight Strip which indicated the permit must be signed and accepted prior to May 28, 1947. After this reading Mr. Plomert remarked that this would mean that the Right-of-entry expires tonight. City Attorney Willett replied in the affirmative. Mayor Sherfey stated that definite action could not be taken until this meeting.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the Mayor be authorized to sign the Right-of-entry to the airport facilities located on the Lomita Flight Strip, Torrance, granted to the City of Torrance by the United States Government, effective May 28, 1947, subject to a check of the inventory. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

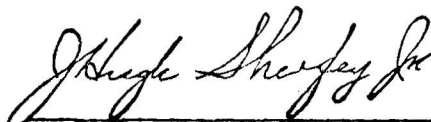
Councilman Gilbert stated it was the policy of the Council to have each individual give his name and address when addressing the Council and requested that this course be followed, which request Mayor Sherfey concurred in.

Councilman Tolson moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 8:55 p.m., upon motion of Mayor Sherfey, seconded by Councilman Gilbert and carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned to 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, May 28, 1947.


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

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